

University of Alberta Madrigal Singers

Leonard Ratzlaff

director

American Choral Directors Association National Convention Los Angeles, CA February 2-5, 2005



Program

Richte mich, Gott, Op. 78, No. 2

(Drei Psalmen, 1844)

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

(Carus 0.125/20)

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, SWV 380

(Geistliche Chormusik, 1648)

Heinrich Schütz

(1585-1672)

(Hänssler/Carus 20.380/05)

Come lovely and soothing death (2000)*

James Rolfe (b. 1961)

(Self-published)

From Three Motets on Texts of Henry Vaughan (2001)*

III. Peace

Allan Bevan

(b. 1951)

(Classica MV 009)

From The Passing of the Year**

Jonathan Dove

Song cycle for double chorus and piano

(b. 1959)

(Edition Peters No. 7568)

Roger Admiral, piano

- 3. Answer July
- 5. Ah, Sun-flower!
- 7. Ring out, wild bells

^{*} Premiered and recorded by the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers on *My Soul, There is a Country...* (Arktos 200149)

^{**} Premiere recording by the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers on *The Passing of the Year* (Arktos 200477)

Richte mich, Gott

Richte mich, Gott, und führe meine Sache wider das unheilige Volk, und errette mich von den falschen und bösen Leuten!

Denn du bist der Gott meiner Stärke, warum verstössest du mich? Warum lässest du mich so traurig gehn, wenn mein Feind mich drängt?

Sende dein Licht und deine Wahrheit, daß sie mich leiten zu deinem heiligen Berge und zu deiner Wohnung.

Daβ ich hinein gehe zum Altar Gottes, zu dem Gott, der meine Freude und Wonne ist, und dir, Gott, auf der Harfe danke, mein Gott.

Was betrübst du dich, meine Seele, und bist so unruhig in mir? Harre auf Gott! Denn ich werde ihm noch danken, daβ er meines Angesichts Hülfe und mein Gott ist.

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt

Also hat Gott die Welt geliebt, da β er seinen eingeboren Sohn gab, auf da β alle die an ihn glauben nicht verloren warden, sondern das ewige Leben haben.

Come lovely and soothing death

Come lovely and soothing death, Undulate round the world, serenely arriving, arriving, In the day, in the night, to all, to each, Sooner or later delicate death.

Prais'd be the fathomless universe
For life and joy, and for objects and knowledge curious,
And for love, sweet love - but praise! praise!
For the sure-enwinding arms of cool-enfolding death.

Judge me, God

Judge me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people; from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!

For you are the God in whom I take refuge; why have you cast me off? Why must I walk about mournfully because of the oppression of the enemy?

O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.

Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy; and I will praise you with the harp, O God, my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my help and my God.

- Psalm 43, vs. 1-5

For God so loved the world

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

- John 3:16

Over the tree-tops I float thee a song,
Over the rising and sinking waves, over the myriad
fields and the prairies wide,

Over the dense-pack'd cities all and the teeming wharves and ways.

I float this carol with joy, with joy to thee O death.

 Walt Whitman (from When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd, vs. 1, 2, 7)

Peace

My soul, there is a country,
Far beyond the stars,
Where stands a wingèd sentry,
All skillful in the wars.

There, above noise and danger,
Sweet Peace sits crowned with smiles,
And One born in a manger
Commands the beauteous files.

He is thy gracious Friend And – O my soul awake! – Did in pure love descend, To die here for thy sake.

If thou canst get but thither,
There grows the flower of Peace,
The Rose that cannot wither,
Thy fortress, and thy ease.

Leave, then, thy foolish ranges;
For none can thee secure
But One, who never changes,
Thy God, thy life, thy cure.

- Henry Vaughan

The Passing of the Year

3. Answer July

Answer July – Where is the Bee – Where is the Blush – Where is the Hay?

Ah, said July – Where is the Seed – Where is the Bud – Where is the May – Answer Thee – Me –

Nay – said the May – Show me the Snow – Show me the Bells – Show me the Jay!

Quibbled the Jay – Where be the Maize – Where be the Haze – Where be the Bur? Here – said the Year –

- Emily Dickinson

5. Ah, Sun-flower!

Ah! Sun-flower! weary of time,
Who countest the steps of the Sun,
Seeking after that sweet golden clime
Where the traveller's journey is done:

Where the Youth pined away with desire, And the pale Virgin shrouded in snow, Arise from their graves and aspire; Where my Sun-flower wishes to go.

- William Blake

7. Ring out, wild bells

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky, The flying cloud, the frosty light; The year is dying in the night; Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new, Ring, happy bells, across the snow: The year is going, let him go; Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Ring out the grief that saps the mind, For those that here we see no more, Ring out the feud of rich and poor, Ring in redress to all mankind.

Ring out the want, the care, the sin,
The faithless coldness of the time;
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
But ring the fuller minstrel in.

Ring out old shapes of foul disease; Ring out the narrowing lust of gold; Ring out the thousand wars of old, Ring in the thousand years of peace.

- Alfred Lord Tennyson

The University of Alberta

Madrigal Singers

Conductor - Leonard Ratzlaff
Assistant Conductor - Kathleen Skinner

Soprano

Suzanne Abele (BSc, Biological Science)

Valerie Andriowski (BMus, Voice)

Dawn Bailey (BMus, Voice)

Gillian Brinston-Kurschat (BMus, Voice)

Leanne Dammann (BMus, Viola)

Kimberley Denis (MMus, Choral Conducting)

Jill Hoogewoonink (BMus, Voice)

Constance McLaws (BA, Music)

Kripa Nageshwar* (BMus, Voice)

Kathleen Skinner (MMus, Choral Conducting)

Erika Vogel (BMus, Voice)

Kym White* (MA, Musicology)

Alto

Liana Bob (MMus, Sessional lecturer, Jazz Choir)

Christine Browne-Munz (BMus, trumpet)

Gabrielle Donnelly* (BA, Political Science)

Amy Gartner (BMus, Voice)

Kristel Harder* (BMus, Voice)

Erin Hooper (BFA, Art and Design)

Janice Marple (BMus, Voice)

Elizabeth McHan (BMus, Violin and Viola)

Ugo Nzekwu (BSc)

Evelyn Pfeifer (DMA, Sessional lecturer, Choral Conducting)

Shannon Robertson (MA, English)

Toscha Turner* (MA, Music and Sociology)

Tenor

Jamie Burns (MMus, Choral Conducting)

Alex Eddington (MMus, Composition)

Ryan Herbold (BMus/BEd, Violin)

WeiHsi Hu (MMus, Choral Conducting)

Nathan Letourneau* (BBComm, Bilingual Business)

Jeremy Maitland (BMus, Trumpet)

Caleb Nelson (BA, Music)

CD Saint (BA, English)

lan Trace (BSc, Earth & Atmospheric Sciences)

Bass

Jonathan Ayers* (BMus, Voice)

Montano Cabezas (BMus, Piano)

Robert Clark (BMus, Voice)

Rob Curtis (MMus, Choral Conducting)

Dan Davis (BMus, Saxophone)

Luke Ertman (BA, English)

Jonathan Kilgannon (BMus, Piano)

Damon MacLeod (BA, English and Philosophy)

Adam Sweet (BA, Political Science)

Mark Tolley (BMus, Voice)

Jordan Van Biert (BMus, Piano,

The King's University College)

Anthony Wynne (BA)

*Choir Executive



Leonard Ratzlaff

has been on the faculty in the Department of Music at the University of Alberta since 1981. His doctoral studies at University of Iowa,

under the supervision of Don Moses and Richard Bloesch, culminated in a dissertation on Anton Bruckner's *Te Deum*, for which he was awarded the Julius Herford Dissertation Prize from ACDA in 1987. Ratzlaff directs the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers, teaches conducting and choral literature, and co-supervises the graduate studies program in choral conducting, the largest in Canada.

In 2003 he assumed the position of Chair of the Department of Music. His performance activity as a baritone soloist has included appearances at several summer music festivals in Europe, including the Classical Music Festival in Eisenstadt, Austria Souillac, France. He also directs the Richard Eaton Singers, Edmonton's foremost large chorus, and has appeared regularly as guest conductor of the Edmonton Symphony and Pro Coro Canada, and as a quest clinician across Canada. He was the conductor of the National Youth Choir of Canada in 2000, and has served as President of the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors. In the past year Ratzlaff has been awarded the Alberta Order of Excellence and the Order of Canada in recognition of his service to choral music in Alberta and Canada.

The Madrigal Singers

one of the leading university choirs in Canada, were formed in 1974 by Larry Cook, and have been conducted since 1982 by Leonard Ratzlaff. The choir is comprised of undergraduate and graduate music students and students from other faculties. Founded as a small ensemble devoted to the study and performance of madrigal and chanson repertoire of the Renaissance period, the Madrigal Singers currently number over 40 singers and perform repertoire of all periods and styles. The Madrigal Singers have had frequent successes in choral competitions in recent years, with several first prizes in the Mixed Choir category of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation Competition for Amateur Choirs (1992, 1996, 1998, 2004) as well as in the Robert Schumann International Choral Competition in Zwickau, Germany (1995) and the Cork International Choral Competition in Ireland (1999).

The Madrigal Singers have performed at two national conventions of the Association of Canadian Choral Conductors, and have participated in University Voices, a festival of Canadian university choirs focusing on contemporary choral repertoire, sponsored and hosted by Soundstreams Canada in Toronto. They collaborate regularly with the Edmonton Symphony, and last season performed Handel's Messiah with the ESO. They are frequently recorded for broadcast on the CBC's regional and national networks. The Madrigal Singers have released four CDs: Musicians Wrestle Everywhere (1997); Balulalow: Anthems, Carols and Lullabies for Christmas (1999), My Soul, There is a Country (2001), with the first recording of Gavin Bryars' On Photography; and The Passing of the Year (2003), which features the premiere

recording of British composer Jonathan Dove's new choral cycle by that name. More information as well as a listing of the choir's recordings and repertoire in recent years can be found at the Madrigal Singers website:

www.ualberta.ca/~mads





Roger Admiral

completed his Doctor of Music degree at the University of Alberta. His main teachers were Helmut Brauss, Peter Smith and Virginia Blaha. He

completed further studies in Lieder interpretation at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Dr. Admiral coaches contemporary chamber music and lectures in contemporary music at the University of Alberta.

As a solo pianist Roger has specialized in the performance of contemporary music for piano, most notably works of Howard Bashaw, Alfred Fisher, James Harley and Michael Oesterle.

Roger performs regularly as part of the Kovalis Duo with Montreal percussionist Philip Hornsey. He has accompanied numerous singers and instrumentalists, most notably Canadian baritone Nathan Berg in his Lincoln Centre debut, and mezzo-soprano Marie-Nicole Lemieux. He is a regular duo partner with saxophonist William Street, performing across Canada and the US and recently in Spain. Dr. Admiral is a regular collaborator with many choirs in the Edmonton area, and recorded Dove's The Passing of the Year with the University of Alberta Madrigal Singers.

Choral Program

University of Alberta

The Department of Music, University of Alberta (Edmonton, Alberta) is recognized as having one of the most outstanding mid-sized music programs in Canada. With a full time faculty of 20 as well as 35 sessional faculty, the Department provides programs of study in all academic (ethnomusicology, musicology and theory) and performing areas of music, as well as in composition, with approximately 130 undergraduate and 50 graduate students.

The Department supports 12 ensembles, including 5 in the choral/vocal area: the Concert Choir, Graduate Conducting Choir, Happnin' Jazz Choir, Madrigal Singers and Opera Workshop. For more information regarding the Department and its programs, please visit our website:

Choral & Vocal Faculty (2004-5)

Full Time:

Debra Cairns (DMA, Illinois), associate professor, choral music

Robert de Frece (DMA, Oregon), professor, choral music, music education

Mary Ingraham (PhD, Nottingham), assistant professor, choral literature

Alan Ord (DMA, USC), associate professor, voice and opera workshop

Leonard Ratzlaff (DMA, lowa), professor, choral music, and chair

Harold Wiens (Diploma Reifeprüfung, Detmold, Germany), professor, voice

Part Time:

Liana Bob (MMus, Alberta), visiting assistant professor, choral music

John Brough (MMus, Alberta), visiting assistant professor, choral music

Jolaine Kerley (MMus, Alberta), visiting assistant professor, voice

Evelyn Pfeifer (MMus, Alberta), visiting assistant professor, choral music





MUSIC





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